

In the South Fork Canyon of the Weber, Jim Evans had a blacksmith shop. Wherever there was a saw mill of very much importance there was usually a place where a person could do some blacksmith work.

The Stevens boys, Henry and Thomas, were also good in the blacksmith trade. Thomas was born in Wanship January 12, 1863 and he came to Oakley with his father as a small boy. From his father he learned the blacksmith trade. When Thomas was married and built his home, he also built a small blacksmith shop and here he did his work. A large shop stood on the lot between Phillips' and Emery Wilde's.

DAIRY FARMING AND LIVESTOCK

Oakley was just a natural place for livestock and dairy farming. On April 1, 1893, A. D. Richards tells of the organizing of the first Livestock Association in Oakley. James Evans was elected president, W. H. Stevens vice president, Nels Pearson secretary, and N. B. Snapp treasurer. This association functioned for a number of years and the land which they controlled was later sold to Horace Stevens.

Long before the modern creamery took care of our milk, people of Oakley were dairying quite extensively. Those who were fortunate enough to live near a spring had an ideal place for taking care of their dairy products.

The Tom and George Wilde families in Weber canyon used to have huge wooden buckets in which they put their milk to cool and after the milk was cooled the cream was skimmed off, churned to butter, and sold at Wilkins store in Peoa.

James Welsh had a very good place to take care of milk. His son, Will, had gone to the State Agriculture College and he really fixed up a good milk house. Two vats were made, one for the morning and one for the night milk. They were fixed so that when the milk was in them it was completely surrounded by cold spring water. Taps were at the bottom of the vats so the milk could be drawn off without disturbing the cream.

They also had a big churn which was run by water power.



Grist and Sawmill, first Creamery

CREAMERY

In 1900 the first creamery was built in Oakley by William H. Stevens. This creamery was in a little building behind the grist mill and was named "The Only Creamery." Butter and Ice Cream were made in the creamery.

In 1906 an accident occurred in the Stevens mill and Ward Stevens was caught in the saw. He died of injuries received in this accident. As Ward had been running the Creamery it was closed for some time, for it seemed almost impossible for the Stevenses to again open the creamery.

Reed Stevens reopened the creamery in 1911 and changed its name to Weber Creamery. It was not long before Reed built a new building where the present creamery now stands and he changed the name again to "Brooklawn Creamery." It has grown steadily until at one time 10 or 12 men were needed to carry on the work in the creamery and the hauling of milk.

Joseph Phillips, Junior was the first man to haul butter to Park City and what was not sold there was put on the train and shipped to Salt Lake. For years W. S. Franson drove the truck, taking butter and cheese to Park City and Salt Lake.

In 1927 people began to modernize their barns and cooling systems and to send milk to the Salt Lake market to be sold as A Grade bottled milk.

IRRIGATION IN OAKLEY

The first irrigation ditch in Oakley was the Hopkins ditch but it has been abandoned. The larger part of the work was done by Hopkins and Henry Stevens to irrigate their farms.

The two main Irrigation companies are New Field and North Bench, and the South Bench. New Field heads just below the dugway in Weber Canyon and was built in 1876. South Bench was taken out of the river in 1880 about 2 miles below the north bench.

To supplement their water, reservoirs were built in the canyons above Holiday Park. This was a difficult task for the supplies had to be taken in with pack horses over rugged mountain country.

In 1919 a reservoir was built at Smith and Moorehouse by the farmers of Oakley and Marion. Without these reservoirs it would be impossible to carry on farming in Oakley as we do today.

There are a diversion dam and canal built in Oakley which take water from the Weber river during high water. This water is put into the Provo River and is stored in the Deer Creek Reservoir for use in the Utah and Salt Lake Counties.

UTILITIES

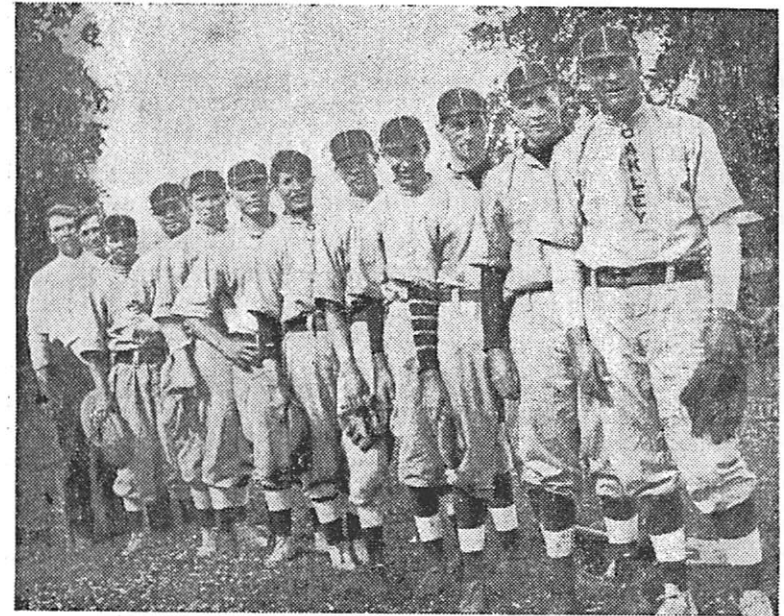
Sarah Phillips recalls how thrilling it was when they first got a coal oil lamp. She says, "the lamp was placed on the table and the entire family spent the evening marveling at the wonderful light they had." It was a big change from the "bitch" and candle to which the pioneers had been accustomed.

In 1910 Horace Stevens, who was then running the saw mill, converted some of its power into lights. These lights are known as direct current lights. They furnished electricity only to the main part of town. They were turned on at dusk and off at eleven o'clock. On Mondays they would be left on until 12:00 o'clock so that the women could do their washing. Ed Sorenson used to turn these lights on so that he could do his milking at 5:00 in the morning.

In 1920 Utah Power and Light installed our present lighting system.

On January 5, 1934 it became necessary for Oakley to be-

come an incorporated town in order to complete a water project which W. P. A. was helping to sponsor. Robert V. Frazier was the first Mayor of the town and the water system was completed August 3, 1936. It cost about \$26,000.00.



Baseball Team—1912

RECREATION

In the very early history of recreation most of the amusement was done in the homes. Often two or three families would come together for an evening of visit and entertainment.

School was a center around which much of the entertainment hinged. The plays at Christmas time were well attended and enjoyed by all. Then, in the spring another entertainment would be given.

Oakley at one time had an Open Air Dance Hall. This was built in the Stevens Grove and the huge lumber sections could be taken down and stored away for the winter. Benches were all around. This dance floor was owned and operated by